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Recueil des traités; that Tétot, who does cite it in his *Répertoire*, does so merely to throw doubt on its genuineness; and that even Jonathan Elliott, whose *American diplomatic code* first gave currency to the document, knows nothing of it until his second edition in 1834.

The concluding address, on "The background of American federalism," is devoted chiefly to proving "that the essential qualities of American federal organization were largely the product of the practices of the old British empire as it existed before 1764."

The printer and proofreader evidently nodded at several places in this otherwise attractive book, for example, on pages 39, 40, 101, 150; but surely nothing short of inspiration can explain the expression (p. 71), "The American system of *providential* government!" A tragic explanation of the way these slips escaped the keen eye of the author is to be found in the simple dedication to the memory of his son, Captain Rowland H. McLaughlin, "who gave his life for the principles of justice and honor among nations at the Meuse, October 14th, 1918."

S. B. H.

The New America. By an Englishman, Frank Dilnot. (New York: Macmillan company, 1919. 145 p. \$1.25)

This cleverly-written and rather gossipy little book is a sympathetic attempt to let Americans see themselves as others see them, as well as to give Englishmen better understanding of their "cousins across the sea." Most interesting are the author's impressions of the "Women of America," "American hustle and humor," and "Food, dress, drink and taxicabs." In the chapter "America at war" the characteristic spirit of the nation is brought out and the author comments on the soldiers, who display, he says, a "boyishness, fierceness and intensity totally unknown in the older nations." In the final chapter, "England through a telescope," an excellent summary of the present form of government of England is given and the unifying forces are pointed out which will bind together by closer ties the English and Americans of the coming generations.

History of Spain. Founded on the *Historia de España y de la civilización española* of Rafael Altamira. By Charles E. Chapman, Ph.D. assistant professor of history, University of California. (New York: Macmillan company, 1918. 559 p. \$2.60 net)

For nearly a score of years Hispanic-American students have used Rafael Altamira's scholarly volumes as a background for their historical work. Many have wished for a translation that would make this material accessible to the growing list of persons whose interest in Spain and its former colonies has outstripped their familiarity with the Span-

ish language, but the prospective expense of publishing has proved prohibitive. In lieu of an English edition of the complete work a wide circle of readers will welcome Mr. Chapman's condensed narrative, frankly based on the Spanish original, but showing evidences of careful selection, sound scholarship, and of independent judgment in the supplemental chapters.

The volume is about one-fifth the size of the parent work. Mr. Chapman's method has been to select his material rather than to attempt wholesale condensation. Occasionally, as in the first chapter, he follows the original closely, but by omitting details that refer largely to Spain itself, he can emphasize those features that concern the later development of Hispanic America. His last two chapters continue the narrative beyond 1808, where Altamira stops. Chapman also contributes additional material dealing with the diplomacy of Charles III — material with which his readers of *The founding of Spanish California* are already familiar. The frontispiece is a general map of Spain, compiled by the author, showing physical features and chief cities; there is also reproduced from Shepherd's *Atlas* a series showing the political development of Spain during the middle ages. There is an excellent classified bibliography of material available for English readers, and a full, accurate index, which is also serviceable in locating the Spanish terms scattered through the text. Altogether Mr. Chapman has produced a scholarly book and one that is very readable, despite very obvious suggestions of the textbook.

A work that is so largely a selective compilation must show the defects as well as the good points of the original. Others have already indicated that Altamira's weak point is the Arabic domination in Spain. Chapman's purpose makes it unnecessary to stress this period. Frequently, however, the process of condensing causes too abrupt a transition in the narrative, and this at times becomes altogether too choppy when the author, like his model, attempts to consider conditions in all the minor subdivisions of the peninsula. To the reviewer it would seem better to omit such references altogether or to introduce them only for contrast or comparison with the development of Castile, Aragon, or Portugal, as the case may be. After all, Mr. Chapman plans his volume primarily as an introduction to Hispanic America, to whose history and institutions he proposes to devote another volume, so that minor areas might receive still less mention than he makes. This is not a serious fault and his book will serve admirably as a basis for readings in the miscellaneous list of monographs, general histories, special treatises, and books of travel that already crowd Spanish bibliographies.

The historical student needs a clear, concise picture of Spain's politi-

cal, social, and economic condition at the moment when modern colonial activity begins. He should supplement this by reviewing the development of typical institutions that Spain later transmitted to the new world. The author gives the material for such a picture and review, but apparently he prefers to leave the immediate creative task to the instructor. The latter may find this a sharp challenge to his pedagogic ability. The author's course may arise from too closely following Altamira by halting the political narrative in order to review the social and economic progress of a given era. Evidently that was necessary in a detailed national history for Spanish readers. An alternative course would have been to present a summary of Spain's political development to the beginning of the sixteenth century and to follow this with a careful study of those institutions or phases of Iberian life that Spain contributed to the new world. Then the reader would be ready for the brief, picturesque summary which we still lack.

The above criticism involves a question of judgment, wherein men may easily differ. The discriminating scholar will welcome the author's opinion regarding the respective merits of Arabic and Moorish contributions racial or cultural, his discussion of the fiasco of the great Armada, and his just appreciation of the part played by the Spaniards themselves in the peninsular war. The scholar will also approve the author's thesis that the colonies of Spain were as much affected by her institutional development from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century as during the preceding period, although his text alone does not always establish a close connection between the experiences of the mother country and happenings in the colonies. Perhaps the author plans to complete the nexus in the supplemental volume that he has promised us. Generally sympathetic with things Spanish, Mr. Chapman can be exceedingly critical, as in the two brief chapters in which he supplements the narrative of the Spaniard. Certainly one will have little quarrel with the author's apportionment of space. The period before the Catholic sovereigns is covered by two-fifths of the volume, while the rest of the space is about equally divided by the year 1700. The first six chapters treat of the life of the people and their political development in about equal measure, while thereafter the relative proportions are about two to one, respectively. In this readjustment of historical topics the Spanish historian was the pioneer but his American interpreter shows himself an able, painstaking, and thoroughly judicious follower.

ISAAC J. COX